

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A lead zirconate titanate-based thin film,  
wherein the film is an epitaxial crystal thin film  
which has a chemical composition represented by the  
5 general formula  $Pb_{1-x} Ln_x Zr_y Ti_{1-y} O_3$  (wherein Ln  
represents any one selected from the group consisting  
of lanthanum, lanthanoid elements, niobium, calcium,  
barium, strontium, iron, manganese and tin; and  $0 \leq x < 1$ ,  
 $0.43 \leq y \leq 0.65$ ) and whose orientation is {111}  
10 (including orientations whose tilt angle from the  
direction perpendicular to the substrate surface is  
within  $15^\circ$ ).

2. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film  
15 according to claim 1, wherein the orientation of the  
film is (111) (including orientations whose tilt  
angle from the direction perpendicular to the  
substrate surface is within  $15^\circ$ ).

20 3. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film  
according to claim 1, wherein the half-width of the  
locking curve in the circumferential direction of X-  
ray pole figure is within  $30^\circ$ .

25 4. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film  
according to claim 1, wherein the half-width of the  
locking curve in the circumferential direction of X-

ray pole figure is within 15°.

5        5. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 1, wherein the half-width of the locking curve of the crystal is within 15°.

10       6. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 1, wherein the half-width of the locking curve of the crystal is within 5°.

       7. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 1, wherein the half-width of the locking curve of the crystal is within 2°.

15       8. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 1, wherein the half-width of the locking curve of the crystal is within 1°.

20       9. A lead zirconate titanate-based thin film having a composition represented by the general formula  $Pb_{1-x}Ln_xZr_yTi_{1-y}O_3$  (wherein Ln represents any one selected from the group consisting of lanthanum, lanthanoid elements, niobium, calcium, barium, strontium, iron, manganese and tin;  $0 \leq x < 1$ ; and  
25        $0.43 \leq y \leq 0.57$ ), wherein the relative permittivity - voltage characteristics of the film satisfy the following equation:  $\Delta\epsilon/\Delta E \geq 3.0$ , wherein  $\Delta\epsilon$  is a change

in relative permittivity and  $\Delta E$  is a change in electric field strength (kv/cm).

10. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film  
5 according to claim 9, wherein the relative permittivity - voltage characteristics satisfy the following equation:  $\Delta\epsilon/\Delta E \geq 5.0$ .

11. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film  
10 according to claim 9, wherein the film is an epitaxial film whose orientation is (111) or within  $15^\circ$  from (111).

12. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film  
15 according to claim 1 or 11, wherein the {111} face of the epitaxial film is orientated within a tilt angle of  $5^\circ$  (including  $0^\circ$ ).

13. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film  
20 according to claim 1 or 12, wherein the {111} face of the epitaxial film is orientated within a tilt angle of  $3^\circ$  (including  $0^\circ$ ).

14. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film  
25 according to claim 1 or 9, wherein silicon is used for the substrate.

15. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 14, wherein the silicon is (100) orientated.

5 16. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 14, wherein the silicon is (111) orientated.

10 17. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 1 or 9, wherein the film is formed by MOCVD;

15 18. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 1, wherein in the general formula  $Pb_{1-x} Ln_x Zr_y Ti_{1-y} O_3$ ,  $0.43 \leq y \leq 0.57$ .

20 19. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 18, wherein in the general formula  $Pb_{1-x} Ln_x Zr_y Ti_{1-y} O_3$ ,  $0.45 \leq y \leq 0.55$ .

20 20. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 1 or 9, wherein the crystal structure is at least any one of tetragonal, cubic and rhombohedral crystals.

25 21. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film according to claim 20, wherein at least any two of

tetragonal, cubic and rhombohedral crystals coexist.

22. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film  
according to claim 1 or 9, wherein at least the  
5 surface of the substrate is electrically conductive.

23. A lead zirconate titanate-based thin film,  
wherein the film is an epitaxial crystal thin film  
which has a chemical composition represented by the  
10 general formula  $Pb_{1-x} Ln_x Zr_{1-y}Ti_yO_3$  (wherein Ln  
represents any one selected from the group consisting  
of lanthanum, lanthanoid elements, niobium, calcium,  
barium, strontium, iron, manganese and tin; and  $0 \leq x < 1$ ,  
 $0.40 \leq y \leq 0.65$ ), whose orientation is {111} (including  
15 orientations whose tilt angle from the direction  
perpendicular to the substrate surface is within  $15^\circ$ ),  
and in which at least any two of tetragonal, cubic  
and rhombohedral crystals coexist.

20 24. The lead zirconate titanate-based thin film  
according to claim 23, wherein in the general formula  
 $Pb_{1-x} Ln_x Zr_{1-y}Ti_yO_3$ ,  $0.43 \leq y \leq 0.57$ .

25 25. A lead zirconate titanate-based epitaxial  
thin film formed by MOCVD, wherein the film has a  
chemical composition represented by the general  
formula  $Pb_{1-x} Ln_x Zr_{1-y}Ti_yO_3$  (wherein Ln represents any

one selected from the group consisting of lanthanum,  
lanthanoid elements, niobium, calcium, barium,  
strontium, iron, manganese and tin; and  $0 \leq x < 1$ ,  
0.43  $\leq y \leq$  0.65) and its orientation is {111} (including  
5 orientations whose tilt angle from the direction  
perpendicular to the substrate surface is within 15°).

26. A dielectric device, comprising the lead  
zirconate titanate-based thin film according to any  
10 one of claims 1, 9, 23 and 25.

27. A piezoelectric device, comprising the lead  
zirconate titanate-based thin film according to any  
one of claims 1, 9, 23 and 25.

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28. An ink jet printer head, comprising the  
piezoelectric device according to claim 27.

29. A ferroelectric device, comprising the lead  
20 zirconate titanate-based thin film according to any  
one of claims 1, 9, 23 and 25.

30. A pyroelectric device, comprising the lead  
zirconate titanate-based thin film according to any  
25 one of claims 1, 9, 23 and 25.

31. A method of producing a lead zirconate

titanate-based thin film, wherein a crystal film  
having a chemical composition represented by the  
general formula  $Pb_{1-x}Ln_xZr_{1-y}Ti_yO_3$  (wherein Ln  
represents any one selected from the group consisting  
5 of lanthanum, lanthanoid elements, niobium, calcium,  
barium, strontium, iron, manganese and tin; and  $0 \leq x < 1$ ,  
 $0.43 \leq y \leq 0.65$ ) is epitaxially grown on a substrate at  
least the surface of which has a {111} orientation or  
orientation with a tilt angle within  $15^\circ$  from {111}  
10 by MOCVD.

32. The method of producing a lead zirconate  
titanate-based thin film according to claim 31,  
wherein  $0.45 \leq y \leq 0.57$ .

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33. The method of producing a lead zirconate  
titanate-based thin film according to claim 31,  
wherein  $0.43 \leq y \leq 0.55$ .

20 34. A lead zirconate titanate-based thin film,  
wherein the film is a crystal thin film which has a  
chemical composition represented by the general  
formula  $Pb_{1-x}Ln_xZr_{1-y}Ti_yO_3$  (wherein Ln represents any  
one selected from the group consisting of lanthanum,  
25 lanthanoid elements, niobium, calcium, barium,  
strontium, iron, manganese and tin; and  $0 \leq x < 1$ ,  
 $0.40 \leq y \leq 0.65$ ), whose orientation is {111} (including

orientations whose tilt angle from the direction perpendicular to the substrate surface is within  $15^\circ$ ), and in which at least any two of tetragonal, cubic and rhombohedral crystals coexist.